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Welcome to Pioneer Junior High School!

Junior high is an important time in a student's life. It is a time of tremendous growth—academically, socially, physically, and personally. Students are discovering new interests, developing greater independence, building relationships, and beginning to understand more about who they are and who they want to become. At Pioneer, we are honored to be part of that journey.

Our mission captures what we believe our work is ultimately about:

“We reach, teach, and touch the lives of junior high students, preparing them for tomorrow. We expand their intellectual and physical abilities and address the needs of the whole individual.”

That commitment to the whole student guides everything we do. We want Pioneer to be a place where students feel known and connected, where they are challenged to grow, where they have opportunities to discover their strengths, and where caring adults support them through both successes and challenges.

This year, that mission is reflected in our instructional focus on Literacy Across Content Areas Through High-Impact Instruction. Across every subject, our teachers are working to help students access challenging content, develop academic language, think deeply, communicate their ideas, solve problems, and become increasingly independent learners.

Our professional learning is centered on three high-impact instructional practices: establishing clear, performance-based learning objectives; intentionally developing academic vocabulary; and using gradual release to move students from teacher support toward greater independence. Ultimately, these practices are about creating classrooms in which students understand what they are learning, why they are learning it, and what they can do with that learning.

And while strong instruction is essential, we know that educating junior high students requires much more. Students need meaningful relationships, opportunities to belong and participate, encouragement to take healthy risks, and adults who see their potential even when they may not yet see it themselves. That is what it means for us to reach, teach, and touch lives.

Our success depends on the partnership among students, families, teachers, support staff, and our community. I encourage our families to stay connected, ask questions, celebrate growth, and reach out when support is needed. We are partners in helping our students navigate these important years and prepare for tomorrow.

It is a privilege to serve as Principal of Pioneer Junior High School, and I am grateful to be part of a community that cares deeply about its students. I look forward to all that we will learn, accomplish, and experience together this year.

Sincerely,



Chris Kotlewski, Ed. D
PRINCIPAL | PIONEER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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